

SENSE & NONSENSE

From the Inaugural Address of Gov. John W. Leedy of Kansas.

NEW CONDITIONS—NEW DUTIES.

The Legacy of the Public School System—Its Past and Present Aspects—A Worthless Inheritance for Future Generations Unless Accompanied by the Socialist Commonwealth—Foreign and Native.

The inaugural address of Gov. John W. Leedy, of Kansas, contains some sense and a deal of nonsense.

His contempt for the Grub Street scribblers and the capitalist press in general of our large cities certainly is justified. Nothing can be said against these that is too undeservedly harsh. The capitalist press of America is an ulcer on the face of the earth, and in the country's metropolis the ulcer is most virulent. Hence the press is bereft of all sense of justice and of decency, and it is the hired attorney of crime, and the bully of the weak. It thrives in corruption, its only aim is to uphold corruption, and it is all the more vile because it seeks to cover up its felonious conduct with the mantle of purity, patriotism and religion. To thrash this vile pack is proper, and the thrashing administered to them by Governor Leedy is certainly merited. But there ends the sense of the address. Most of the other points are either senseless, or a mixture of sense and nonsense.

It is a mixture of sense and nonsense to say, for instance:

"While, according to the press of the nation's most populous metropolis, her children linger in the streets untaught, except in larceny of the pavement, unfed, except at the hand of charity, unhoused, except in the kennels they dispute with creatures scarcely less miserable, the commonwealth of Kansas, rejoicing in a public school system which is the most grateful heritage we received from our fathers, and the best legacy we can leave our children, finds ample house room and school room for every Kansas child."

It is certainly sensible, and a well-merited rebuke withal, to the Philistines of the East, to contrast the school system of Kansas with that of New York and Chicago. The gold bug capitalists of these cities have reached the point where they deliberately manufacture illiteracy. Lavish in their expenditures for armories and militias, they are niggardly in the appropriations for education. Certainly in the Kansas which they traduce, school room is ample.

It is, however, Jingoe nonsense to bow down before the Kansas public-school system as the "best legacy" the Kansas fathers "can leave to their children." If Gov. Leedy indulged in this phrase out of love for its sonorosity, he was guilty of levity. If he indulged in it, believing he was uttering something sound, he certainly has much to learn.

Time was when a good public-school system was indeed the best legacy one could leave to the rising generation; but that time is gone by. Of what use is the best school house or school-system if the children cannot avail themselves of it? Time was when all that was necessary was to rear the school house and set up the system; that was "opportunity" enough. Now, however, the best school-house and the best system are insufficient "opportunity." In the days when parents found no difficulty to earn their own living and to keep their dear little ones in food and clothing and leisure, the school house supplemented what was needed and became a nursery of intelligence and independence. Those days are over. In increasing numbers fathers are unable to do what their hearts would wish for their children; in increasing numbers, everywhere in the country, Kansas not excluded, the father's labors are no longer sufficient to furnish the child with its material needs, without which it cannot avail itself of the school house; in many instances the father's labors do not suffice for the family's needs, and the child must be enlisted into the army of the workers. Of what avail to these is the "legacy of the fathers," what empty mockery is it not to hand down such an empty legacy to future generations that are bound to be still more impoverished if the nation insists upon itself to the traditions of the past?

The development of the capitalist system compels the present generation to supplement the really valuable legacies of the past with the new legacies made necessary by the present. An assured living is the prerequisite to the acquirement of an education; nay, it is necessary, also, to render the acquired education useful to its holder. Under the present system of capitalism, i. e., of the private ownership of the land on and of the capital with which to work, the masses will be ever more deprived of the opportunity to use the school house, and the few who do enjoy such opportunity will find that capitalism enslaves both mind and arms, plunders both the intellectual and the manual laborer; in fact, that the better educated a propertyless being is, the more wealth he must yield to his slave-holder, the capitalist employer.

If Gov. Leedy really has at heart the revolution that his words elsewhere tell us, he ill conceals, and desires to aid its

(Continued on Page 3.)

THE MILLVILLE PLAN.

Not Satisfied With Fleecing the Workers in the Mills.

The Millville Mill Owners, Whose Tenants, the Local "Business Men" and Parsons, Find It Hard to do "Business" and thus Pay Rent, Are Getting these Tenants to Seek to Keep the Mill-hands From Spending their Wages Out of Town.

No less nonsensical and harmful are Gov. Leedy's slurs upon the "foreign colonies" of our large cities. No doubt our immigrant fellow citizens are in too many instances no profitable acquisition to us. But it is safe to say that "it would have been money in the nation's pockets" if more than several thousands of our natives had never been born. Sweeping denunciation of the foreign born citizens can never be made without the maker falls into gross contradictions. Gov. Leedy illustrates this point. He refers with pride to the time when "in the country's darkest hour," Kansas "was a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night before an oppressed people." In what consisted the darkness of that hour?

It consisted in a wide-spread conspiracy in the country to break up the union with the aid of Imperial France and Monarchic England.

And who were the conspirators?

Almost without exception natives, most of whom traced their pedigrees back to the first convicts who colonized the Virginias!

In that darkest hour when the native Southerners sought to destroy the nation; and no end of native Northerners got substitutes and remained behind to speculate on the nation's misfortunes, the foreign-born element was numerous fighting shoulder to shoulder with those of their brave Northern fellow citizens in the Wilderness, at Vicksburg, at Gettysburg, at Antietam.

The slur on the foreigners is, however, worse than foolish. It is mischievous and misleading. This country rests on the shoulders of those of its inhabitants who, whether born here or elsewhere, have made this their home and work or are willing to work in the country's welfare. Those who are laboring at the country's ruin, selling her out to the loafer class of Europe, are its foes, and no native genealogic tree, however far it may reach back, can wipe out the treason of these. A New York Anna Gould squandering in a French chateau the wealth produced by the workers on our railroads is not a whit worse than the daughter of the silver bug, ex-Senator Sharon of Nevada, who squanders upon a British baronetcy the wealth produced by the workers in our silver mines. The cry against the foreigner can only serve to conceal the treason of the natives. If this country ever will be a country of and for the people, it will have to be made so by the yeomanry of the land—its proletariat or working class, wherever the place of their nativity.

Kansas may yet again perform in the approaching dark hours the noble role she performed in the dark days of '61-'65. But to do so her leading men will have to step up and stand abreast of the times, as they did then—their minds free from Jingoeism, their heads clear on the requirements of the hour.

"VICTORIOUS PROTECTION."

How It Served the Plushworkers of Bridgeport, Conn., Whom It Entrapped.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Jan. 19.—Your correspondent, "City Visitor," gave, in the last issue of THE PEOPLE an accurate account of the late strike at the plush shop here (now better known as the workhouse). It will no doubt be of interest to give a short historical sketch of this branch of a "protected" industry.

The Salts Textile Manufacturing Co. was an emigrant from England about six years ago, and then styled "Sir Titus Salt, Bart., & Sons," much. I presume, to give it an air of belonging to the British aristocracy, and thus secure an advertisement for its future products.

Knowing that the supply of skilled workers for the class of goods they wished to manufacture was limited in this country, they "advised" those of their workpeople who had been thrown out of employment, partly through the McKinley bill and partly through the glutting of European markets, to come to America. They spoke of the rush of business in America, the big wages that could be made, and assured all that they had orders for two years. And so there came out here some 300 workers, buoyed up with the false hope of capitalist promises and the mirage swimming before their eyes of "Protection and Prosperity." Everything went well at first. The wages of the weavers averaged \$15 to \$20 a week, and so on throughout the various departments. The men drank the health of the bosses, and the women sang the joys of protection. This lasted a few months—about eight months—and soon the bright sky of prosperity was paled o'er with the black, ominous signs of a coming reduction. Weavers were told that they eat up all the profits with getting high wages, threats of discharge had become frequent, and thus, as if touched with some foul wizard's wand, the smiles of the bosses turned to frowns, and the decorous language of their lackies to curses and threats.

A reduction of 25 per cent. all round was proposed, and the shop had been running but eight months! "But why this?" came from the puzzled wage slaves. "To enable us to compete with Dobson's of Philadelphia, and other firms who are cutting prices." "But," asked the dumbfounded and tricked workers, "how about the two years' work and protection and prosperity?" "Tut, tut, we are not here to discuss politics; we are business men! How can we give you work unless we sell our goods, and how can we sell our goods when we have to compete with Dobson, who pays less wages, and consequently undersells us?"

IN HUNGARY.

The Spread of Socialism in the Rural Districts of the Country.

A Farm Hand's Eloquent and Fearless Plea in Defense of the Class Interests of Proletarians—The "Fatherland" Defined—The "Fatherland" that the Robber Class of Capitalists Would Guard is a Monster that the Workers Must Overthrow.

When the Socialists say that the workingman is used by the capitalist class as cattle, it is objected to from many sides that the Socialists exaggerate. Certain happenings in Millville, R. I., may settle the question.

No particle of the herd on a cattle farm is allowed to go to waste. The bones of the animals, their wool and their hides or skins, their milk when alive, their flesh when dead, all of these are matters of deep solicitude to the owner. The cattle is expected to, and it is seen to it that it does so, return to the earth the strength it takes out of it; their dung is used for manure; it is as carefully looked after, kept and distributed. How does the capitalist treat the worker? The following from Millville will tell:

For some months the business men and property owners of Millville have been contemplating asking the U. S. Rubber Co. to require all those who work in the works in the village to live there. Finally a party of business men, ministers and property owners, called on Superintendent Comee and laid their case before him. They urged that people working in Millville should live there. That such a course would be a benefit to the village and would add to its improvement besides giving the business men and property owners an opportunity to recover from the effects of the dull times for the past three years. It was urged that at the present time there are from 200 to 300 men at work in the works, many of them heads of families, who live in Blackstone and Woonsocket and who go and come morning and evening on a train specially run for their accommodation. Those people, it is claimed, carry away with them the cream of the wages earned in the works, and the village gets no benefit whatever from them. It was also urged that there was nearly 200 empty tenements in the village, and if the people at work in the works were required to live in the village these tenements would be occupied.

What does all this mean but that, just as cattle are treated and made to deposit their dung on the farm that feeds them, the workers are to be compelled to spend their wages in such places as may enable their bosses to get it all back again?

The "business men" of Millville and its "property owners" are suffering from the dull times; and so are the workers. Do these "business men" and property owners propose to improve the condition of everybody, the wage earner included? In the first place, wage earners don't count in the estimation of such people. Wage earners are no more a part of a community than are cattle. Moreover, to improve the condition of the wage earners would simply mean to allow them to keep a larger share of their own product; but that is not possible without reducing the share of the plunder on which the "property holders" live, and that is not what these gentry are after. The 200 tenements said to be vacant in Millville are substantially the property of the Millville mill owners; the "business men" and the "ministers" in the place are substantially the tenants of the mill owners. If these tenants can make no sales and these precious persons can get no collections the mill owners can get no rents. It is clear as day that to enable the mill owners to draw rent from their real estate, the "business men" and the ministers, both sets of whom are virtually one, must have the wherewithal to do so. Millville can't be "boomed"; that source of rent is not available; what else is there left but to coerce the mill hands to live there and thus pay rent, and thus enable the "business-person" combination to pay rent to the mill owners?

The mill owners clip the wool of and skin the workers in the mills. The profits they make are the clippings and skinnings practised on the workers. But something has to be given back to the men to live on. The ideal worker, as the ideal cow, is one that can be milked eternally without food. Such cows there are not, neither are there such workers. The cows have to be fed, but their dung, that part of their food that is not extracted as milk, is not allowed to go lost. And the cow is kept where she will manure its own pasture. So with the Millville workers. Some wages have to be paid to them, some of the wealth they produce must be returned to them to enable them to live and yield milk, i. e., "profits" for the idle boss. But that part of the wealth which they produced and is not pilfered from them is not now to be allowed to be lost. It is to be dropped on their own pasture, by seeing that they do not stray into the pasture lands of other bosses.

He who seeks to uphold the capitalist social system either is substantially a cow-herd or has a cow's soul. Men who would not degrade man to the level of cattle, and those who are too manly to allow themselves to be thus degraded, will work with might and main to overthrow the capitalist system and establish socialism.

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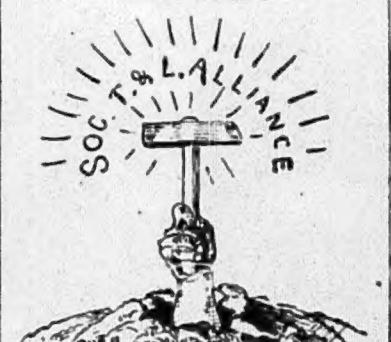
When I speak of 'Fatherland,' and denounce the thing, I mean thereby the existing social system. That is what I hate. Don't others find no end of fault with this system? Daily do the papers say this and that is bad; and yet none of them is indicted. I am a Hungarian; I am born here, a fact that I never deny and that I never shall teach my children to deny. But when I say they should hate the robber class of property holders, I do so justly.

For man to love something it must have a certain power of attraction that makes him feel that he is loved in return. Love cannot be produced by blows. Whichever way I may turn, nowhere do I find in this 'Fatherland' such attraction.

"I have become a Socialist because I saw that only under the banner of Socialism men are to be found with principles and ideas. It is only among these that freedom, fraternity and equality are not mere phrases, but living principles, for which they are ready to make sacrifices. I am not afraid of the prison; gladly I shall go thither where so many of my comrades have suffered and are still suffering. We Socialists have a secret talisman that consoles us, that inspires us with courage and zeal.

"When I am ordered to contribute to the force of this talisman, why should I, as Socialist, object? I shall go proudly to prison, because I shall be the first farmhand sent to jail for being able by his pen to strike where it hurts the District Attorney. Thereby the best proof is furnished that the farmhands are no longer the ignorant lot that they have hitherto been taken for.

"I close. I think I have shown that my heart is free from fear. Now, you, honorable Jurors, will withdraw and deliberate. I certainly do not tell you: 'Spare me; have pity upon me'; no, Judge according to your sense of justice."



A CIGARMAKERS' UNION DROPS OUT.

The Stranger-Gompers Policy of Banning Workingmen Playing Out.

CHICAGO, Jan. 17.—I desire to give the readers of THE PEOPLE a peep into the workings of the organization of the cigarmakers of the Windy City of the West.

There is a Strike Committee in this town composed of delegates of the various cigarmakers' unions; they call under the name of "Joint Advisory Board." This board the fakirs hold the majority in, and we Socialists have had to put up with their actions. Shortly after the convention, the board endorsed a Democratic capitalist candidate for the Legislature. Thereupon my union, No. 384, sent a resolution to the board condemning such action as detrimental to the best interests of organized labor; we also sent a copy to our official journal, requesting its publication in the November issue. The International president suppressed the same.

There is no need for me to mention how the fakirs felt when the resolution was read before the board. At first the secretary tried to suppress it, because he was the very one who moved the endorsement of the boodle politician. However, our delegate insisted that the resolution be produced and read; after much wrangling it was read and created quite a sensation. A heated discussion took place. Our delegates told them that they were nothing but a gang of labor fakirs who preached "no politics" in the union when Socialism, the acknowledged party of the workers, was mentioned, but turn around and endorse a capitalist and boodler from one of the parties that stands for the exploitation of the worker. The mover of the endorsement then made an explanation that is the best condemnation of "pure and simpledom"; he explained that the "Saloon Keepers' Association had requested that the boodler be endorsed," and besides, such endorsement would "advertise the label." The endorsement was reconsidered after a hot fight.

The shameful action of going into capitalist politics, while declaiming against politics in general, as a pretense to exclude Socialist politics, gave the first impulse to the members of Union 384 to sever their connection with the gang; when, however, the members found that the reactionary provisions, passed by the last convention were approved by the general vote, and the dues were raised in the bargain, they concluded to organize independently and cut loose from the fakirs. Our dues will now be 10 cents per week; the new organization will be a fighting organization only, and not a Strasser-coffin, fakir-supporting concern, as the old union is now. We don't believe in healing the wounds inflicted by the capitalists while doing nothing to prevent them from wounding us. We are organized to prevent the wounds being struck. When we are fairly organized we intend to apply for a charter from the S. T. & L. A.

We would have remained as members of the International Union, regardless of the raise of dues to 30 cents per week, had not the other amendments and resolutions passed, which deliver us, bound hand and foot, to the capitalist class by preventing us from educating our membership in its class interests. For this reason we pulled out. Fraternally, J. K.

BROOKLYN BRIDGE.

A Sample of the Inhumanity that Lurks Behind "Glasgow Plans"

A VIGIL OF DEATH.

The Three Classes of People Who Are Roaming the Capitalist Municipalization of Industries—The Shocking Death-Roll on the Brooklyn Bridge—The Methods of Private Capitalism Transferred to Public Capitalism.

Observers know that there is quite a move just now for capitalist municipalization, a la "Glasgow Plan." The move is backed by three different sets:

1st. The set of stockholders, who find their stock sinking, their concerns sliding into receivers' hands, and their former profits eaten up by the bondholders. It was, as is well known to observers, the interests of this set that Carroll D. Wright had in mind when he tentatively suggested government ownership of railroads.

2d. The set of scheming politicians of the Edward M. Grout stamp, who sent something in the wind, want to be "in it," but have caught hold of the wrong sow by the ear.

3d. The set of confused ideologists, who mistake the shadow for the substance, and, anxious for success, fly off the handle.

The most favorite illustration of the excellence of their plan is the Brooklyn Bridge. It is an illustration that they, Prof. Ely among them, love to quote with even greater relish than the Post Office. The illustration suits the Socialists; it serves admirably to point out the fraud upon the workers that lurks behind "Glasgow Plans."

The condition of the Bridge employees is best summed up in these two short sentences:

1st. "Of the original number, only twenty-two men are still in the department"; and

"Out of the 104, 43 have died from exposure."

The beat on the Bridge is exceptionally exposed during the larger part of the year. It is so exposed that it has been appropriately called the "Vigil of Death." Why should that be? In the air surcharged with pestilential microbes, the inhaling of which means almost certain death? No. If it were, the question would come down to whether it was at all necessary to keep the post, and, if necessary, one would have to submit to the great danger, as one does in battle. But that is not the case. The danger of the post lies in the excessiveness of the hours and the lowness of the pay. Excessive exposure to the cold winds, without sufficient food, clothing and time to recuperate, must inevitably prove injurious. Such excessive exposure and insufficient remuneration are not inevitable evils, like the dangers of the battle field. They are evils that arise from the capitalist system of operating plant.

Only the other day a Judge of the New York Court of Appeals dismissed the case of a woman whose arm was injured in a factory through the firm's violation of the factory acts. The reason given for throwing the case out was that employees assume responsibility for the "obvious risks" of their occupation. The only "obviousness" of the risk in such cases is the obvious feature of capitalism that it is run for the private profit of the capitalist class at the expense of the working class. Capitalist municipalism is simply the transferring to the capitalist class, in possession of the municipal government, the functions which it otherwise exercises in its private capacity. All the hideousness of private capitalism is repeated in municipal capitalism. For the sake of making larger profits, the private capitalist fails to spend money in protecting the lives of his employees at the machine; for the sake of KEEPSING the large profits thus made, the capitalist class seeks to reduce taxation, and one of the ways of doing that is to employ fewer men than necessary on the municipal undertakings which it runs and paying them less than they need. Thus it comes that the Bridge employees are not as numerous as the arduousness of their task should make them; that the hours are long, there not being enough for several shifts; that their wages are insufficient; and that the mortality among them is shocking.

The municipalization that the Socialists demand, short of the complete overthrow of the capitalist system, is of identical nature with all the other temporary demands which they make of the now ruling class; that demand, like all such others, has

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential).....	2,008
In 1890.....	13,531
In 1892 (Presidential).....	21,157
In 1894.....	33,133
In 1896 (Presidential).....	36,583

No revolution ever rises above the intellectual level of those who make it, and little is gained where one false notion supplants another. But we must some day, at last and forever, cross the line between Non-sense and Common-sense. And on that day we shall pass from class paternalism, originally derived from the fetish fiction in times of universal ignorance, to human brotherhood in accordance with the nature of things and our growing knowledge of it; from political government to industrial administration; from competition in individualism to individuality in co-operation, from war and despotism in any form to peace and liberty.

Thomas Carlyle.

RESOLUTIONS 2 AND 3.

The 2d and 3d resolutions appended to the platform of the Socialist Labor party, which, "with a view to the immediate improvement of the condition of labor," demand the national and municipal ownership of certain industries under certain conditions, have been recently objected to by some who favor the "Glasgow Plan" of nationalization, to wit, nationalization that leaves the employees in the condition of wage-slaves, with the only difference that they exchange a private for a public exploiter. One of the objections raised is to the provision that the "employees shall elect their own superior officers." It is argued that the working men are at present ruled by the capitalist class in such a manner that it is doubtful whether they could be capable to exercise such a power wisely; and the election by the workers of the Mahones, the Arthurs and the Sergeants as their chief officers is pointed to as evidence to justify the doubt, and even to justify serious apprehensions were such power now vested in the working class. The objection does not hold water. It proceeds from that sinful logic that consists in ignoring the changed conditions that are the condition precedent for the changes under discussion.

The Mahones, Arthurs and Sergeants, together with the whole kit of labor crooks, from Pomeroy down to Gompers, are as much the reflex of the present intellectual status of the workers as are the capitalist politicians whom these elect to power. In electing as officers of their organizations men from their own ranks who eventually become rascals, the workers proceed from the identical principle that leads them to place into public office the capitalists who plunder them. What is that principle? It is the principle that the Capitalist Class, as such, has rights before which Labor must bow; that the Capitalist Class feeds Labor; that it is an immutable law that Labor must depend upon Capital;—the principle, in other words, which blinds the workers to the fact that Labor it is that feeds both itself and the Capitalist Class; that Capital represents only the plunder perpetrated upon Labor; that the plundered have it in their power to put an end to their degradation; and finally, that, unless they do, the only outlook for them is deepening misery.

Proceeding in such blindness, the workers elect equally blind labor leaders as union officers. The blind labor leader seeks, honestly at first, to put into practice the errors of his fellows; he fails, of course; and then he develops into a fakir and rascal. The wide-awake capitalist, or their lackeys, whom he and his fellow wage-slaves in their blindness elected to public office, help him in his development fakirish. He naturally wants to live; his theories are knocked all of a heap; Hamlet-like he finds the world out of gear; and being intellectually still weaker than Hamlet, he sacrifices his men to his own existence. We have yet to learn the name of a single labor crook in the country who would not have been as straight as a pike and pure as an angel had he only started equipped with a correct understanding of the ground on which he trod.

Every inch of freedom enjoyed by the proletariat or working class must be conquered by themselves; it will not come down from heaven, like showers in the spring. And every step taken towards freedom can be taken only by men whose breasts respond to freedom's call; men, whom ignorance keeps in the slough of slavishness have steps too unsteady to march to their deliver-

ance. To say that, because, while shackled in ignorance, workingmen raise rascals to chieftaincy among them, THEREFORE we must apprehend that when sufficiently freed by enlightenment to dare to take the manly stand that would be implied in the victory at the polls of Resolutions 2 and 3, they will commit the same ignorance-born folly of raising to or keeping in power leaders of the same stamp, is to drop into the blunder of imagining that, because the cocoon is not safe, unless firmly woven to a twig, THEREFORE we must apprehend for its safety when developed into a butterfly, it spreads its wings for daring flights.

The Socialist Labor party, by its platform and resolutions, by its literature and speakers, seeks to light the spark of freedom in the breasts of the proletariat by enlightening their minds. The growth of its poll indicates the measure of its success. The victory at the polls of Resolutions 2 and 3 can come not one day sooner than the mental and moral development of the proletariat has reached that ripeness that renders absurd all apprehension on the score of their fitness to choose fit officers.

1,200 MEMBERS, MOSTLY VICTIMS.

A fool-killer is certainly badly needed around the headquarters, if the thing has any, of the "Brotherhood of the Co-operative Commonwealth." A leaflet recently issued by it gives news, which if true, must sadden every being with a feeling heart and a thinking head. It announces that the concern now numbers 1,200 members and speaks of an aggregate of \$29,500 pledged to it, besides many other pledges of \$65.40 a month. It is to be hoped that the bourgeois soul, that is running the printing bureau of the affair, is simply carrying the fake methods of "business" into this scheme, and that neither the victims nor the amount in which they are victimized is quite as large as claimed, and that the claim is simply made for "booming" purposes. Sad, indeed, were it if it were otherwise.

In the first place, the size of disaster, that must inevitably attend all utopian plans for the overthrow of capitalism, is in direct ratio to the number of the ideologists and innocents who are roped in and to the amount in which they are taken in by the schemers, who usually are at the bottom of them. If indeed 1,200 people have enrolled themselves, it is safe to say that 1,150 are prospective victims—altogether too many, too vast an area of broken hearts and broken purses.

In the second place, the louder the crash and the more extensive the devastation brought on by the collapse of these wild cat schemes, the harder is the road before the Co-operative Commonwealth. Every failure of schemes that propose short cuts litters with debris the path of the oncoming social system. The greater the failure, and the louder the moanings that go up from among the ruins, the more widespread in the despondence that seizes the hearts of the people, and the louder also are the shouts of the capitalist lackeys who are furnished with "one more proof" of the "impracticability of Socialism."

No person, not driven by want to commit rascality for a living, no person, even approximately informed upon the Social Question, should lend his name or efforts to this new Ichabod plan of the "Brotherhood of the Co-operative Commonwealth."

The path mapped out by history to the overthrow of the capitalist system of production does not wind over the tortuous wilderness of "fighting capital with capital," it moves straight along the solid highway of political action by the proletariat organized upon the revolutionary platform of the Socialist Labor party.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

The Lincoln, Neb., "Independent" (Pop.), with wonderful introspection, says:

"Some men are so generous that they give themselves away at almost every opportunity."

And forthwith proceeds to furnish an illustration of its own maxim with the following doggerel:

"O, the pops they are a-popping,
And the heads they are a-dropping.
And you bet there'll be no stopping
Until every rep shall die;
We will make the dry bones rattle,
We will drive them forth like cattle,
For we surely won the battle,
And we'll surely eat the PIE."

We always thought so, but now we know it, that what the Pop politicians are after, is a transfer of the "pie" from the old to a new set of political hacks.

Does any one want to understand why the labor organizations that are managed by the "pure and simple" ignoramus, miscalled leaders, are in a hole with the wind blowing upon them from all sides, and why it is so important for the rank and file to throw these fellows out? Here is a proof. The "Typographical Journal" contains this passage:

"While one can readily understand that all men cannot be given machine situations, even if capable operators, it is no easy task to figure out a solution to the problem of what to do with the unemployed."

Who can "readily understand that all men cannot be given machine situations"? None but the capitalists them-

selves, to whose interest it is to use the machine for private profit; or those workers, who, having been "made to think" by ignorant leaders, know nothing of the labor question and have had the sense of the Rights of Man numbed within them; or, lastly, those miscreant leaders who look at a labor organization simply as a thing to live on, and, consequently, have a direct interest in "making the rank and file think," that is to say, keep them in ignorance and ready for the capitalist shambles. Only these can "readily understand" nonsense, and only to them is the "solution of the problem of the unemployed no easy task." To all others the solution is plain.

The unemployed are a feature of the capitalist system. Labor in the capitalist system is like a coat; when needed the coat is put on; when not needed it is taken off and laid away, where it lies until needed again, when it is again taken up. Thus does the capitalist use labor. When he needs it he takes it; when he does not need it he lays it off, and it is necessary for him that it lie there ready to be taken up again whenever the capitalist needs it again. Without the unemployed there is no robust capitalism. "Business" could not expand at will. Furthermore, the unemployed are valuable to the capitalists in this: where there are no unemployed, labor can make demands that the capitalist could not wholly ignore; but where there are plenty of unemployed, then the capitalist can snap his fingers at the demands of his men; if they are too "un-American" and won't submit to starvation wages, their places are soon cleared for the unemployed, who, having nothing to chew, are ready to work for anything.

It follows that the inhumanity of keeping men out of work is a cornerstone of capitalism: A social system whose cornerstone is human suffering may, one can well understand, suit those who profit by it first rate, but it becomes clear as day that it cannot suit those who suffer by it. The rank and file of the workers suffer by this system. The solution is plain—OVER-THROW THE SYSTEM, ESTABLISH THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC.

This is the language of intelligent Labor. It is the language that is increasing in volume, that is setting the capitalists in a sweat, and that is causing the still more despicable crew of "pure and simple" labor leaders to be jumping around like headless chickens.

It is clear that the Minneapolis "Progressive Age" belongs to the Bourbon class—it neither learns nor forgets. While many an advocate of Bryan in the late campaign has learned the lesson that the money question is a question that affects capitalists only; that in such a fight the biggest capitalists, i. e., gold bugs are bound to prevail, that the people cannot "check" any capitalist conspiracy; and that the whole conspiracy of capitalism can be overcome by the people only by knocking down the whole system of capitalist robbery, this "Progressive" misnomer quill-pushes the following blockheadism:

"When the Indianapolis conference of bankers convenes, mark well what they will undertake to do. They will draft a bill to relieve the greenbacks. If the people are not asleep they will check this conspiracy by the time it reaches Congress."

This is a touching little sketch given by "E. M. A." in the London "Justice" on the happy days the Socialist Council of Lille in France is blessing the children with:

"Our readers will remember Comrade Delory, Mayor of the important town of Lille. They will remember, too, that the reactionists have already managed to get him 'suspended' for a few weeks, and would be delighted, no doubt, if they could only manage to suspend him and his fellow Socialist Councillors altogether. For this Socialist Town Council has put an end to every kind of robbery and robbery; they are of so rigid an honesty that Panamists have no chance whatever, and while big salaries are being ruthlessly cut down, the workers employed by the Council are getting higher wages and shorter hours. Nor is this all. Like Roubaix and other Socialist towns, the Lille Municipality has decided to look after the children, not as a matter of charity, but of duty. 'Cantines scolaires'—i. e., free meals—are to be provided, so far as under present conditions is possible, for every Lille child. Of course, this can only be organized gradually; but a splendid start was made on Sunday, September 13th, when four 'cantines' were opened. A thousand children," says the 'Socialiste,' were led in procession by their teachers—the Mayor, Delory, marching at their head—to the sounds of music and beating of drums to the various halls where for the first time the municipal table was spread for them. It is impossible to describe the delight of this world of little ones at the good things offered their voracious appetites—Parmentier soup, roast veal and fried potatoes, oranges, cakes and sweets. Ah! as surely these little ones, when they are grown men and women, will remember the Commune that Socialism at once transformed into their fairy godmother. And the fathers and mothers, too,—most of all, indeed—will remember that September 13th. * * * In the afternoon, to complete this Socialist fete, over 2,000 children were taken to a performance at the Grand Théâtre. Wild with delight, they again and again cheered, shouting 'Vive Delory! Vive le Parti Ouvrier!'

"Lucky little Lille children! If only we could have a few Socialist Town Councils, and a few Mayors like Delory, Carette, Dormoy, Solembier, and their

fellow here in England! Why, they'd manage to make even a Lancashire factory town beautiful!"

What could not we make of our factory towns, and even of our great metropolis.

The Prohibitionist "Voice" is certainly in error when it says:

"The Prohibition party needs money, but what it needs worse is local misers who will keep up an organized activity and gather in converts to the cause in every town."

Any one can readily understand that a movement, that has the brass to put on airs of sanctity and yet is as unhallowed as the most unhallowed in that it advocates the plunder of the workers and has a decided preference for the class of "prominent citizens" of whom Jesus said that a camel had a better chance to squeeze itself through the needle's eye than they to get into heaven, cannot long keep its missionaries. These will discover the sort of immoral work demanded of them, the decent ones will fall off, and it will become harder and harder to replace them. That we can understand.

But we can't understand how the Prohibition party can be running short of money. Isn't a Standard Oil Trust Magnate a national, State and county officer of the "godly" Prohibition party? Are not the Bascoms, Wheelers, and other labor skinners and land sharks prominent in its councils? Want of funds? Surely the "Voice" means to perpetrate a joke.

It is a significant fact, which should not remain buried in the columns of "The Truthseeker," that its support is failing off. It says:

"Nearly two thousand of our subscribers are in arrears on their subscriptions, and together owe us nearly four thousand dollars. A short time since we sent out notices to these friends, but the responses were almost nothing."

The measure in which clearness increases on the Social Question the intelligent masses are bound to perceive that few things could suit the Capitalist Beast better than to have energy expended in chasing the fleas that it breeds. The chasing of the fleas draws attention away from the Beast itself; it can, with all the greater impunity, commit its ravages; and the force, which, if concentrated upon its own head, would kill it off in short order, will be frittered away. Churchianity, with all its crime and imbecility and its equally criminal and imbecile pack of pupilt beneficiaries, it but a flea that the Beast of class rule breeds, and that flourishes best where the Capitalist Beast prospers. The Beast can but smile at having that flea chased. It is no accident that the professional atheists, like Bob Ingersoll, who in one hour can commit more mistakes than Moses in a lifetime, are all enthusiastic can-dieholders of the Beast itself.

The people cannot long fail to see through the farce. It is a good symptom of the times that they are growing indifferent to the forum of the professional atheists, while they are turning strongly to the support of THE PEOPLE, that does not bother about the fleas, but grapples with the Beast itself.

The "Times" contained an editorial the other day which showed how the "honest" efforts of Carnegie & Co. are rewarded. It was in reference to armor plate. Secretary Herbert, after an extended investigation, reported that armor plate could be made for \$400 per ton, even allowing 50 per cent for profit. By collusion, the two companies furnishing plate to the government, demand the same price, namely, \$583, and the saving on three ships, or rather the amount stolen from the government on three ships is \$1,500,000. The Secretary recommends the government to go into the business on its own "hook" and the "Times" sort of seconds that scheme.

Facts like these show how the wealthy men of this country became wealthy, and also why there is such anxiety manifested every little while in regard to our "unprotected coasts." The building of warships that are disabled before they get into deep water and that are only good for show, has made a few more millionaires in our land, has increased our debt, and given the jingoes a chance for war.

It is not a burning shame that the intelligent voters of this country will allow their servants to pour out money like water on such useless and barbaric baubles as guns and warships? Millions for destruction, but not a cent for building up happiness.

While the N. Y. "Evening Post's" capitalist pets are being exposed and publicly convicted of deep immorality through the "Seeley Dinner" investigation, and while the papers are reporting the disgraceful scenes enacted at that dinner, the "Post" is dumb as the grave on that subject, but is all the while emptying the vials of its stupid wrath on the corrupt political bosses of the land in this guise:

"The machine is thus supreme in the three greatest States of the Union. It is developing alarming power in many other States. It gives the country Platt as Senator from New York; Quay's man from Pennsylvania; a Chicago "boodle Alderman" from Illinois. Having done this, it asks the people, 'What are you going to do about it?' Unless that question shall be effectively answered, democratic government as it was conceived

by the framers of the Constitution will have ceased to exist in the United States."

Of course the combination of Pharisee and mutton-head that is symbolized by the "Post" does not realize that what it complains of is but the effect of "Seeleyism." It approves of the system that places into idle and unworthy hands the nation's wealth, and it dares not rebuke its masters, but sets its conscience at rest by snarling at its masters' political lackeys.

The purple-faced and pimple-nosed brigade that, unfortunately for the brewers, presides over the destinies of the St. Louis "Brauer Zeitung," seems still to be under the influence of its Christmas and New Year devotions at the shrines of its favorite saints—Scab Beer and Suicide-suggesting Whiskey. It informs the few people who are curious enough to look into the paper that, among the votes cast at the recent convention of the A. F. of L., in favor of the Chicago alumnus Pomeroy, 60 were given by "Delegate Tobin of the Shoemakers District Alliance of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance!"

Delegate Tobin may or may not have voted in that way. The "Brauer Zeitung" is but fishy authority to rely on. But this is certain: Delegate Tobin's organization—the Boot and Shoemakers' Union—is not, as it happens, in any way affiliated with the S. T. & L. A. Delegate Tobin is not connected with the "Shoemakers' District Alliance of the S. T. & L. A."

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JOHN WANAMAKER.

Interpellated by a Member of the Socialist Labor Party.

Sir—Before I enter into a consideration of the nature of the business principles upon which it is now proposed to carry on the work of government, permit me to direct your attention to the fact that, whether those principles are good or bad, or whether their application will result in benefit or injury to the country, they are not the principles upon which this Republic was founded and which were commonly relied upon, to a very late period, to guide the administration of public powers. The proposition to now apply them is, therefore, clearly innovative and plainly un-American.

I make no apology for using that word "un-American." Because a term has been misused is no reason why it should be discarded. It is a good word, of mighty significance, as will be in good time. This land, with its imported system of law, and imported languages and religions, has produced little that is distinctly native, and many things popularly supposed to be thoroughly American are not indigenous at all. There is one thing, however, whose original American character is beyond dispute. I refer to the Declaration of Independence. That paper is an American production containing the ideas of Americans as to government, and expressing them in plain language. Those ideas had never before been promulgated in any other country, and were, in effect, a direct denial of the right of any other form of government to exist on the earth. That document may therefore be confidently used as a criterion by which the American or un-American character of anything relating to government may be determined.

It is not remarkable that the political leaders and public men of to-day seldom go to the Declaration for inspiration or authority; nor that our so-called better classes, particularly that portion who place themselves on their descent from the rebels of '76, rarely refer to it, unless, it may be, to sneer at its immortal truths as "a string of glittering generalities."

John, there is nothing in the Declaration concerning "business interests," nor anything about it being our duty to "run" the government on "business principles"; nor a word about "business" or "business men." The signers evidently knew nothing about business principles; or, if they did, considered that silence would best express their opinion of them. Nothing in the Declaration will sanction the latter-day proposal to turn the government over to business men and permit them to administer it in accordance with what they chose to call their "principles." The proposed scheme is foreign to the Declaration and un-American.

Can you get around that fact, Mr. Wanamaker? Keep it in mind; I shall have a great deal more to say on this subject. Enough for this week.

S. L. P.

Philadelphia, Jan. 20.

"Victorious Protection".

(Continued from Page 1.)

The fathers of the Republic held it to be self-evident "that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these rights are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." And said they, "to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men." That was the sole function of government—the securing of rights, in the opinion of the signers. They said nothing about anything else. And they declared it to be not only the right, but the duty, of a people to alter or overthrow any government that did not accomplish these ends.

It is a common notion of political rights that a man may exercise them or not, as he chooses; and of social duties that a man may perform them or not, at his option. This universe, however, is built on no such plan. We should be in a bad way if it were. Security of rights being absolutely necessary to social organization, whenever a government no longer maintains them it is doomed. The people have no choice whatever in the matter. The people must either overthrow it or die. The action of a government surviving a people is sufficiently absurd to be rejected by even a bourgeois intellect, as it is. All the law, and law-makers, and business, and business men, and religions, and religious teachers, and institutions—social, political and industrial—and armies and navies, and everything else that man or the devil has ever devised, will be unable to maintain for any length of time a government that does not take care of all the rights of all the people. This may be taken as fixed. Quite as fixed as the law of gravitation.

Only upon one presumption may we reasonably expect the reign of our business men in government to last. If they succeed in establishing and maintaining the inalienable rights mentioned in the Declaration their rule is secure. If they do not, they will go down in short order.

Do you mean to say, John, that our business men really intend to do anything of the kind?

But first let us come to an understanding as to who are and who are not business men. I know what you say you mean. You say: "By business men I mean all men who work at honest labor, of the plow, or loom, or in the workshop or mine."

Now, John, honor bright, you mean nothing of the kind, and you know you don't. You speak of this movement of our business men, of the proposition to administer the government upon business principles, as a "change," a "revolution" (of what has hitherto obtained). The accomplishment as a "revolution." The government has, at least usually, always been administered in the interest of "business men" if you will all who work at honest labor."

A PLUSH WORKER.

Greater New York Convention.

The next meeting of the Greater New York Convention will be held on Saturday, the 30th instant, at the New York Labor Lyceum, 64 East Fourth street. THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION.

MAGUIRE AT WORK.

Saluted Language Upon Discrimination in Taxation.

PATERSON, N. J., Jan. 17.—At last week's meeting of the Board of Aldermen, Matthew Maguire, the Socialist member of the Board, probed deep for the rascality of capitalists in the levying of taxes. He said that the diet of wind pudding and fake legislation never meant to be enacted could no longer be prescribed. It was the duty of the Aldermen to probe the charge of unequal assessment and show where it existed and allow taxpayers to ferret out the reason why they were saddled with the burden of others, owing to alleged favoritism of sworn officials. The committee should find out where these charges were warranted. Did a system of unequal assessment discriminate unjustly? Alderman Lang remarked that there was no question of the latter fact, but believed the act presented by City Counsel Simonton might remedy the evil.

The Socialist member was plainly indignant. "It is true all over the State," he cried, "Political pull and wealth combine to fleece the man whose home is his all. When the people growl you frame a reform measure to have it stammer peacefully in the corporation graveyard at Trenton. It is a specious excuse. On the other hand, influence counts. Why, take the three corners of Washington avenue. William B. Gourley and my colleague Alderman Boylan with valuable property are assessed lower than the grocer on the opposite corner. There were, it is said, others protected in the same way."

"How about yourself, Alderman?" cut in Alderman Brett. "You are on the other corner, are you not?"

"Our property is taxed its full limit," replied the Socialist member. "It is not fenced with political pull."

The State Board of Assessors, continued Maguire, "cut down the assessment on bank stock two-thirds. Governor Griggs appeared as counsel for the bank before the local assessors and also as its president. He attacked the assessment and it was appealed. The State Board whose members the Governor appoints have agreed with his view and repealed the assessment. Should further appeal be taken it would appear and the local contention sustained, would President Griggs consent to removal of the State Board?"

Alderman Brett in a cutaway said, surely Alderman Maguire would not reflect on Governor Griggs. The Socialist member replied that he was dealing with the action of the assessors. It was not a question of honor but of finance. The State Board came in for considerable adverse criticism. Alderman Maguire pointedly insisted that their appointment had been a heifer placed round the necks of the people of the State by its allied corporate interests. Its birth was fashioned to throttle remonstrance and protect railroad property from taxation wherever located. Its acts and formation he believed unconstitutional, and the City Counsel should be instructed to carry on the fight against its usurpation of power.

City Counsel Simonton reviewed the history of previous attempts to appeal from the decisions of the State Board. He had for three years questioned the constitutionality of the act creating state assessors, but had been unable to wipe them out of existence. Mr. Simonton signified his willingness to press the issue should the Aldermen so order and the matter was laid over. The committee have decided to conduct a public inquiry, but will limit time in which taxpayers may present grievances. The inquiry should prove decidedly interesting, and open up hidden avenues of information. Reform measures could be found and introduced by city legislators or their full consideration. Alderman Maguire has once more hit the nail squarely. Let the Aldermen first fully unearth the assessment here.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Single Tax Chicanery.

EDITOR THE PEOPLE—Permit me to inform those gullible people throughout the country who contributed towards the "Single Tax Campaign" in Delaware last year that there is a small contingent left since election day to carry on the work, if some people will contribute to the fund for this purpose.

After fifteen months' active work here in Delaware on the part of the Single Tax—during which time they claim to have spent \$20,000—the result was that on election day they polled 1,005 votes. But note: Their ticket had twenty-seven names on it; six of these were taken from the Republican ticket, and ten more from the Democratic ticket, leaving only eleven "straight" Single Taxers. They did not elect a man of theirs, but helped the Democrats to win.

After all their work they are confronted with a pile of debts. A poor widow woman on the east side of our city mourns for several months rent of the house they occupied as headquarters.

They had a horse and carriage for members to ride around the city, and country, also several bicycles. The horse was bought by a man for the association with the understanding that they were to pay for it on the installment plan. He got \$2, then the payments stopped; since then they have reorganized, and now call it the "New Castle County Single Tax Association." Now a prominent man has taken the horse and has gone into the huckster business; he claims the horse because it belonged to the old Delaware S. T. Association. The man who bought the horse originally and was paid only \$2, says he ought to have the animal, but the chap that has it won't give it up. They are a happy family.

The New York S. T. contingent have left in disgust. The Philadelphia squires are glad of this, but now the Delaware Single Taxers are doing their utmost to get rid of the latter. They have had a monkey and parrot time since the election in November. E.

Wilmington, Del., Jan. 10.

RANDOM SHOTS

Fired With Uttering Aim at Persons and Things that Should be Hit.

The mighty forces of mysterious space, by one subtilized by lordly man, Light, darkness, air and water, heat, cold, He bids go forth and bring him power and pelt. And yet, though ruler, king and demigod, He walks with his fierce passions uncontrolled. The conqueror of all things—save him self.

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

When we consider the superstitions of the past, it seems incredible to us that men could ever have believed in such absurdities. And yet in these days we, too, have our delusions, which would have been inconceivable to our forefathers. We smile at their conceptions of the universe and the beliefs they had, but can we imagine them as being so foolish as to die of hunger in the MIDST OF PLENTY? What clearer vision of things have we, who nurse the delusion that without the capitalist the earth would no longer bring forth her fruits, that but for the "captains of industry" the race would relapse into the darkness from which they had marched it forth.

We do not bow down to inanimate gods of wood and stone, but in the realm of thought we do worship ideas just as false and lifeless. Did we but realize it, no man who reveres the "rights of property" can afford to laugh at the crudest belief of bygone years.

I once read somewhere a tale which well illustrates this modern superstition: It was of a "natural" who was wont to wander away, thus causing his relatives and others a great deal of trouble. As he was harmless, they did not wish to confine him; watched, his wandering continued until it was found he would never pass a rope when stretched as an obstruction in his path. Acting upon this, his people enclosed him in a large space by stretching a rope over forked sticks. The "natural" would walk up and down the enclosure, but never attempted to get out, which he could easily have done. Thus he got needed air and exercise. The barrier (like the idea that capitalism is a necessity to existence), was not a physical one which he could not surmount; it had existence only in his mind.

One of the pet queries of the capitalist scavengers is, "Who would do the work under socialism?" And they prove "conclusively," of course, that no one would work. But since the new law forbidding convicts to work at anything except certain repairs on public property has gone into effect, the hypocritical press has been in a flood of tears because, even though fed and sheltered, the life of the convict WITHOUT OCCUPATION is full of unbearable horrors, sure to lead to general insanity in the prisons. All of which proves one thing, that whenever a fakir handles a weapon he finds, to his surprise, that it becomes a two-edged instrument.

This question of prison labor has never been clear to me. Often have I heard the "labor leader" mouthing against the unfair competition of prison work, a competition which would exist just the same if the men were "free."

The present system is more guilty of crimes against criminals than vice versa. Society for its protection takes away the mainstay of families, and thus causes suffering and further crime; this is not one of the least of the wrongs that socialism is destined to right.

A medical friend once told me that physicians as a rule dislike to treat cases of neurosis—nervous prostration. He confessed to a liking for the work, provided he could get at what caused the mental worry which brings on the disease. Herein lies the difficulty, for unless the physician is a sympathetic student of human nature, the patient will baffle all his attempts at finding the true cause. I am led to the above observation by the fact that our comrades everywhere are denouncing the various editions of the puerile "Coming Nation," which are dubbed locally "Govanus Labor," "Squeedunk Labor," etc., as the case may be. But what is the motive of those claiming to be Socialists who show such pernicious activity in furthering the cause of such papers?

Let me relate my experience. Not long since I was solicited for a subscription to one of these "Labor." I objected that such a paper is worthless as a means of propaganda, that its chief feature was but a peevish criticism of present conditions, for which it offered neither suggestion nor practice. To all of which my solicitor made quasi acknowledgement, but claimed that his paper was just the thing for "beginners"—a sort of royal road to the knowledge of socialism. I flattered myself that I had knocked him out, when I showed that socialism, like everything else, has to be taught, and that the way to teach it is by correctly expounding its principles, and for that reason I proposed to do all that I could to further the circulation of THE PEOPLE, and would do my part to aid in building and launching the daily. I was then told that I could not better advance both these interests than by supporting this "Labor." It would make Socialists who would graduate into PEOPLE readers, and the like. Then the benefit, the cause would derive from a local paper (printed in Tennessee) and further, they intended to turn over part of the profits to the DAILY PEOPLE Fund. Argument after argument was demolished, but after each time a new one was forthcoming. Annoyed at the persistency with which this man stuck to the scheme which he partly confessed to be unsound, I determined, like the doctor to find the motive, and I found it.

It was the little revenue that he as manager or editor could gain from the "ads," etc.

Thus it is, I find, that the objectors to the clear-cut, straightforward course of THE PEOPLE have usually some ulterior purpose with which, though all

conflict. Truly there are Socialists and Socialists.

SELF NAILED TO A COFFIN.

The Vicious Circle in Which "Pure and Simple" Leadership Moves.

From the Cleveland, O., Citizen. We notice in the "Labor Tribune," the official organ of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers, that local lodges at Middletown and Elwood, Ind., are terribly wrought up over the political "monkey and parrot business" of the recent Federation convention, at which their President Garland attempted to have that organization pledge itself to support a high tariff. The Middletown people whine because Hanna's purchased heelers, Carney and Pomeroy, were repudiated, and the Bryan shouters were admitted, while the Elwood union condemns political action as "deviating from the true and fundamental principles for which said organizations were established."

The ordinary radical realizes that it is almost useless to reason with an iron and steel worker. All that he knows is, that ten or twenty years ago he received high wages, was fairly well organized, industry was thriving, and the tariff existed, to which was due all his prosperity. He never considers that the resources of the country were only being developed, that capital had not been concentrated, that foreign markets were more accessible, that labor-saving machinery was but a small factor, and that the great problem of the unemployed was almost unknown.

The iron and steel worker now gazes stupidly at the vast development of industry and commerce, and wonders why it should not be done over again. Railroads connect every town in the country, and he wonders why there are not two railways, where one is not kept busy, in order that he may be given work and wages. He wonders why there are not two bridges instead of one, and double the number of iron and steel structures. He imagines that there ought to be twice as many mills as now exist, even though the demand for their products is not great enough in ordinary times to keep them running in their full capacity.

The iron and steel workers may watch a Carnegie equip his plant with marvelous labor-saving machinery, and before the smoke of the battle of Homestead has cleared away he will demand a higher tariff and the triumph of the G. O. P.; the Olivers, Johnsons, and the great Illinois Co., may, with modern machinery, destroy the skill of their workers and tag them like cattle, but the lessons are lost upon those who have their faces turned to the past.

They pride themselves in creating millionaire manufacturers to give them employment.

A dozen years ago the iron and steel workers boasted of having twenty thousand men in their organization. When machinery began to make its appearance, when concentration of capital made itself felt, their numbers dwindled to fifteen thousand, to twelve thousand, to ten thousand, and the other day Garland entered the Cincinnati convention with only eight thousand men behind him!

Where are your boastful iron and steel workers who a few years ago thought themselves invulnerable, who ridiculed the idea of studying economic changes, who howled for tariffs and "kept politics out of the union"? Hundreds are tramping the highways and byways; thousands gladly avail themselves of an opportunity to work as common laborers. No; they are "not yet ready for socialism." They desire to maintain their "individualism."

And the Garlands and Carnegies and Kilkallongs, who have labored so hard to "keep politics out of the union," what are they doing? Ask Mark Hanna and Mat Quay! While the rank and file have kept their mouths shut, their officials have played at politics, and capitalistic boodle politics at that. They tabooed intelligent discussion on the inside of the union, but asserted their "right of socialism" and led their confiding fellow-workers into the traps set by the Hannas and Carnegies.

Like the once powerful Window Glass Workers' Union, the heretofore strong Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers' Union seems to be slowly crumbling to pieces, and to the last its members are keeping up the senseless farce of non-education. Of course, if they persist in remaining unconscious of the development in the economic conditions and suffer thereby, they have none to blame but themselves, but their fate ought to serve as a warning to other trades to study social problems.

"SHORTER HOURS."

Of the Sort that the Boss Class Believes in and Enforces.

WOONSOCKET, R. I., Jan. 20.—Notices were posted in the works of the Woonsocet Machine and Press Company last week, that on and after Monday, January 18th, the works would run 32 hours a week until further notice. The running time will be from 8 to 12, 1 to 5 on the first four days of the week.

The notice also stated that there would be a cut of 10 per cent. in wages, to go into effect on the same date.

The reason given for this double cut in the workers' revenue is "general dull business and foreign competition." There are 400 affected by this order.

The machine company has been under the present management for the past seven years. It has run steadily all that time and increased the number of employees. For the past 16 months from 150 to 200 hands have been working all night, so great was the rush of orders. The night work was stopped last week.

Daily People Minor Fund.

Previously acknowledged \$1,511.52

January

14. B. Reinstein, Buffalo, N. Y. 79

16. A. P. Huels, Stoneboro, Pa. 100

F. Liss, N. Y. City 100

16. D. Gillin 100

19. P. Kretlow, Chicago 50

J. D. Jersey City 50

Peter Mueller, Brooklyn 130

Total 512.51

PARTY NEWS.

Activity of Militant Socialists East, West, North and South.

National Executive.

Regular meeting held January 19th, 1897. Absent, Waldinger and Reitzlaff. Comrade Reed in the chair.

Resolved that an appeal be issued for the support of the Italian paper, "Il Proletario."

The appeal of the French Branch, Section New York, for endorsement of a proposed French paper, to be called "Le Socialiste," is granted.

Comrade Sanial requested to prepare application blank in accordance with new constitution.

David Taylor reported expelled by American Section, Boston, for supporting the Democratic party, and J. Wise expelled by same Section for supporting the Republican party.

Z. Eisenstadt, of Savannah, Ga., admitted as a member-at-large.

C. B. COPP, Rec. Sec.

National Campaign Fund.

Previously acknowledged..... \$1,939 88
Jan. 13. Collected by W. S. & D. B. Fund, on List 425..... 2 40
Jan. 19. Collected by Hugo Schauer, on List 522..... 2 00

Total..... \$1,994 28

HENRY KUHN, Sec.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 4.—Section San Francisco has elected the following comrades as members of the State Ex. Com.: Edel Hecht, Oliver Everett, H. F. Sablender, William Costley, Dan. Ellis, G. B. Benham and E. T. Kingsley.

The State Sections have nominated the following comrades for the office of State Organizer: G. B. Benham, James Andrew and E. T. Kingsley, of San Francisco.

Comrade Job Harriman and R. T. MacIvor have also been nominated. The former has declined, and the latter is not now a member of the party.

Please vote on the nominees at the next business meeting and forward the number of votes for each to the undersigned before February, 1897.

EDEL HECHT,
Sec. State Ex. Com.

Connecticut.

NEW BRITAIN, Jan. 20.—Comrades and friends will please take notice that Section New Britain will hold a discussion meeting at Painters' Hall, Church street, Sunday, January 24th, at 3 p. m. Subject for discussion, "Will restriction of immigration save the workingmen from their present misery?" This meeting is open to all.

Illinois.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF STATE COMMITTEE FOR DECEMBER 1896.

RECEIPTS.

December.
1. Am. Sec., 30 stamps..... \$ 3 00
La Salle Club, 50 stamps..... 5 00
Jos. Dietzgen Club, 10 st'ps 1 00
13. 5th Ward Club, 20 st'ps..... 2 00
30th Ward (Pol.) Club, 10 stamps..... 1 00
22. S. German, 10 stamps..... 1 00
Cash on hand Nov. 12th..... 3 12

Total..... \$16 12

EXPENDITURES.

December.
1. Postage stamps and cards, \$ 1 15
Shipping leaflets..... 35
13. 200 due stamps..... 10 00

Total..... \$11 50

23. Cash on hand..... 4 62

\$16 12

STAMP ACCOUNT.

Dec. 22, received..... 200
Nov. 18, on hand..... 255

455

Dec. sold..... 150

On credit to Belleville, Ill..... 20

30th Ward (Pol.)..... 10

Due G. Renner..... 7

157

Stamps on hand, Dec. 23..... 268

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Jan. 17.—In the issue of THE PEOPLE of January 10th, 1897, among published questions asked by the Boston Am. Section, appears the following in regard to the so-called "Massachusetts Labor" Question 3, "Whether the State Committee or any of its members are responsible for, or interested in said paper."

The State Committee has never had any part or been interested or ever considered at any of its meetings anything in connection with this paper.

At its last meeting the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the S. C. C. of Mass. cannot recognize any paper or publication as otherwise than antagonistic to the S. L. P. when it allows the publication of articles denouncing political action.

S. E. PUTNEY,
State Central Committee.

Michigan.

DETROIT, Jan. 12.—The following resolution regarding so-called Socialist papers and the "Michigan Labor" especially, were carried at the general party meeting of Section Detroit, on January 10th:

"1. Every paper, striving for the support of the S. L. P., shall first be submitted to the local party for investigation before it shall receive any support.

"2. That Section Detroit endorses the action taken by the Socialist Science and Speakers Club of Detroit, regarding the so-called "Michigan Labor," and, together with the aforesaid club, requests its members to withhold their support from said paper.

"3. That the local manager be informed about this decision."

H. G. HASSELER, Sec.

Financial report of the Michigan State Committee, as reported, audited and accepted by Section Detroit at the joint meeting of the Branches on January 10th, 1897.

THE DAILY PEOPLE

\$50,000 FUND.

THE DAILY PEOPLE

\$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to January 20th, 1897.

\$2,740.

At the meeting of the Daily People Committee, held Sunday, the 20th of December, 1896, an important step was taken from which, if a daily Socialist

paper is at all possible within a reasonable time, the consummation will be reached. The committee adopted the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, A daily PEOPLE has become an absolute necessity to counteract the false and falsified "news" that the capitalist press sets afloat, and to spread enlightenment in the ranks of the working class upon the Labor Question, and to prepare it to deal intelligently with the Social Revolution that is inevitable and is impending;

WHEREAS, The urgency of such a weapon of political and economic warfare in the English language against the plundering class of the capitalist is felt with increasing force, and the demand therefor becomes stronger by the day;

WHEREAS, The undertaking would result disastrously if not successfully put through;

WHEREAS, To make success certain, the paper must be able to survive two consecutive campaigns, that is to say, must appear daily during the period of at least thirteen consecutive months, absolutely independent, firm and uncompromising;

WHEREAS, The sum of not less than \$50,000 in hand is necessary to safely launch such an undertaking;

WHEREAS, Despite the general sense of the necessity of a daily English organ of labor, the collections for it have hitherto been slight; and

WHEREAS, It is evident that, so long as the foundation of such a paper seems indefinitely distant, the contributions will continue slight, while, on the contrary, if its foundation can appear prompt and definite it is likely that ample funds could be promptly gathered; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That a call be issued to the stalwarts, friends and sympathizers, to pledge themselves in the number of 5,000 to contribute each the sum of \$10, payable between the issuing of this call and the 1st day of September, 1897;

RESOLVED, That, if by that date the sum of not less than \$50,000 is cash in hands of the DAILY PEOPLE Committee, a DAILY PEOPLE be started forthwith on October 1st, 1897;

RESOLVED, That this call be printed in the party press of all languages; that subscription lists, headed with these resolutions, be issued to all the Sections and all applicants; and that the names of the subscribers, together with the sum subscribed by each and the installments in which the same is to be paid, be promptly notified to the Committee for publication from week to week,

Are there in the land 5,000 stalwarts

able battery of the Social Revolution in America—a DAILY PEOPLE?

Daily People Committee,
184 William St.,
N. Y. City.

and to mount that needed and redoubt-

Peter Staple, N. Y..... \$ 10 payable August 15.
Max Bernstein, Hamilton, Ont..... May 8.
Jacob Rummel, Milwaukee, Wis..... August 1.
A. H. Smith, Paterson, N. J..... On demand.
Fred W. Ball, Paterson, N. J..... On demand.
Wm. Kampf, N. Y..... Cash.
L. A. of 4th Ass. Dist., N. Y..... \$100 a month from January 1, \$200 Sept. 1.
Leo Lutzinsky, N. Y..... August 1.
Rosenson, N. Y..... \$25 cash, \$50 April 1.
James McQuilton, N. Y..... September 1.
F. W. Weller, Newell, Pa..... \$500 August 1, \$500 September 1.
S. B. Bernick, Newell, Pa..... August 1.
Robert Woodruff, Long Island City, German Section, Dayton, O..... August 1.
James Wilson, Paterson, N. J..... July 1.
P. B. N. Y..... August 1.
S. Gamelin, Philadelphia, M. S. Hecker, N. Y..... \$25 cash, \$15 July 5.
H. H. Moore, N. Y..... August 5.
Herman Kaiser, Pittsburgh, Mass..... S. Rosenzweig, N. Y..... May 1.
Louis Wittenberg, Philadelphia..... August 1.
G. F. Peter, Elizabeth, N. J..... August 1.
John Gross, Guttenberg, N. J..... \$200 cash, \$40 May 1, \$40 July 1.
Elizabeth, E. and O. Abramovich, N. Y..... Elizabeth, E. and O. Abramovich, N. Y..... \$300 cash, \$150 a month from March 15.

Total this week..... \$305

Owing to the smallness of the payments that have so far fallen due and that are to fall due during this month, the acknowledgment of payments will be postponed to the 1st issue in February and will be thereafter continued every fortnight.

Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE,
184 William St., N. Y.THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE,
184 William St., N. Y.

TOTAL RECEIPTS.

July 22, L. H. Chappell, Plymouth..... \$10 00
Sept. 22, John D. Wolf, Saginaw..... 25
Total, Social. Maennerchor, Detroit..... 60 30
Total hand collections..... 20 38
Oct. 6, German Carpenters Un..... 10 00
Oct. 13, Cent. Labor Un..... 10 00
Oct. 20, Brewers' Union No. 3..... 15 00
Nov. 4, Central Com., S. L. P..... 7 50
Dec. 6, American Br., S. L. P..... 8 00
Subscription lists, Detroit..... 31 25

Total..... \$175 68

TOTAL EXPENDITURES.

45,000 copies (9 lots) literature for agitation..... \$82 50
35,000 copies (15 lots) dodgers and cards for meetings..... 32 75
Postage for correspondence and mailing literature..... 5 99
Electro and stereo plates, express charges on plates..... 5 70
Printing of election forms and election blanks..... 7 10
Postal cards for meetings, etc..... 2 50
Hall rent, etc..... 16 50
Journal, advertising caucuses..... 10 25
Advertising meetings in newspapers..... 12 39

Total..... \$175 68

H. G. HASSELER,
Sec. per M. Meyer at former's request.

MISSOURI.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF STATE COMMITTEE.

December.

1. Carried forward from Nov. 8 15
6th Ward Club, Sec. St. Louis, 20 constitutions... 10
9. Mrs. Seigel Smith, Sec. K. C. 6 emblem buttons... 20
J. J. Frank, Chillicothe, Mo. 5 due stamps..... 5
J. J. Frank, Chillicothe, Mo. donation to press fund... 100
17. Sec. St. Louis, by Louis Froehlich, Fin. Sec. 30 due stamps..... 3 00
23. Sec. St. Louis, by L. Froehlich, Fin. Sec. 70 due stamps..... 7 00
23. Ernest Lindner, Bevier, Mo. donation to press fund... 1 25
26. Sec. St. Louis, 25 due cards... 10
26. Ed. Heitzig, treasurer..... 4 00

Total..... \$17 39

EXPENDITURES.

2. P. O. stamps..... 50
2. P. O. cards..... 10
21. Turned over to Treas. Ed. Heitzig..... 4 00

CASH RECEIVED.

October, 1896.

1. Cash on hand..... \$22 70
2. Sec. Dover, Sept. & Oct.... 3 40
23. Sec. Man. Ger., Aug. & Sept. 2 00

CASH PAID.

October, 1896.

1. F. G. R. Gordon, 2 telegrams from Dover..... \$ 50
6. F. G. R. Gordon, trip to Concord..... 72
C. L. Fitzpatrick, printing..... 3 00
21. C. L. Fitzpatrick, printing..... 4 00
Matthew Maguire, lecture..... 5 00
29. Lucien Sanial, lecture..... 7 00

November, 1896.

5. Sec. Man., Am., Sept. & Oct. 4 20
6. Sec. Man., Ger., October... 3 00
7. F. G. R. Gordon, contrib... 4 00

December, 1896.

4. Sec. Man., Ger., November... 2 00
9. Sec. Dover, November..... 1 50
18. Sec. Man., December... 3 00
19. Sec. Man., Am., November... 1 00

Total..... \$16 80

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C. L. Fitzpatrick, printing..... 3 00
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November, 1896.

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